

(US 5,106, 312) in view of Doan et al (US 5,163,345). Claims 7 and 28 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Yeh (US 5,106, 312) in view of Yeh (US 5,011,422). Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Doan et al. (US 5,163,345).

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments to the claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A CATV locking terminator mechanism, comprising
 - a) a housing having a chamber extending through the housing;
 - b) a connector body having first and second ends, a front face, and a securement mechanism at the first end for securing the connector body to an output port, the connector body being configured to be positioned within the chamber such that the connector body freely rotates within the chamber; and
 - c) protrusion formed at the front face for selective engagement with a cooperating tool **whereby torque is applied directly to the protrusion by the tool** to rotate the connector body with respect to the output port **to lock or unlock the connector and the output port**.
2. **(Original)** The CATV locking terminator mechanism of claim 1, wherein the protrusion comprises a double D profile.
3. **(Original)** The CATV locking terminator mechanism of claim 1, wherein the protrusion comprises a triangular profile.
4. **(Original)** The CATV locking terminator mechanism of claim 1, wherein the protrusion comprises a star shaped profile.

5. **(Original)** The CATV locking terminator mechanism of claim 1, wherein the protrusion comprises a hexagonal profile.
6. **(Original)** The CATV locking terminator mechanism of claim 2, wherein the double D protrusion comprises first and second opposed flat surfaces and first and second opposed curved surfaces.
7. **(Currently Amended)** The CATV locking terminator mechanism of claim 1, further comprising a recess formed in the connector body and an O-ring positioned within the recess.
8. **(Currently Amended)** The CATV locking terminator mechanism of claim 1, further comprising a resistor positioned within the connector body.
9. **(Original)** The CATV locking terminator mechanism of claim 6, wherein the distance between the first and second opposed flat surfaces is about 0.130 inches, and the curvature of the first and second opposed curved surfaces is formed along a line corresponding to about a 0.170 inch diameter circle formed about the midpoint of a front face of the protrusion.
10. **(Original)** The CATV locking terminator mechanism of claim 1, wherein the length of the connector body is about 1.0 inch and the length of the housing is about 1.120 inches.
11. **(Currently Amended)** The CATV locking terminator mechanism of claim 1, further comprising a circumferential opening formed **by the gripping surface of the knob between the protrusion and the positioned within the** housing and sized to restrict a person's hand or convention tools from maintaining a grip on the protrusion.
12. **(Currently Amended)** A tool for use with a CATV locking mechanism **and an output port, the tool;** comprising:
 - a) a handle;
 - b) a shaft having first and second ends; and

c) a cavity formed at the first end for selective engagement of the tool with a protrusion of the front face of the CATV locking mechanism ~~a cooperating connector~~ wherein torque is applied directly to the protrusion by the tool to selectively rotate the connector with respect to the output port to lock or unlock the connector and the output port.

14. (Original) The tool of claim ~~13~~ 12, wherein the cavity comprises a double D profile.

15. (Original) The tool of claim ~~13~~ 12, wherein the cavity comprises a triangular profile.

16. (Original) The tool of claim ~~13~~ 12, wherein the cavity comprises a star shaped profile.

17. (Original) The tool of claim ~~13~~ 12, wherein the cavity comprises a hexagonal profile.

18. (Original) The tool of claim 14, wherein the double D cavity comprises first and second opposed flat surfaces and first and second opposed curved surfaces.

19. (Original) The tool of claim 12, further comprising a knob affixed to the shaft.

20. (Original) The tool of claim 18, wherein the distance between the first and second opposed flat surfaces is about 0.135 inches, and the curvature of the first and second opposed curved surfaces is formed along a line corresponding to about a 0.175 inch diameter circle formed about the midpoint of a front face of the shaft.

21. (Original) The tool of claim 19, further comprising a gripping surface formed along an outer portion of the knob.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for locking and unlocking a CATV connector from an output port, comprising:

a) providing a connector body having first and second ends, a front face, a securement mechanism at the first end for securing the connector body to an output port, and a protrusion formed at the front face of the connector body being configured to be positioned within a chamber such that the connector body freely rotates within the chamber;

b) providing a tool having a handle and a shaft with first and second ends, the shaft having a cavity formed in the first end; and

c) engaging the protrusion with the cavity and selectively rotating the connector body by applying torque directly to the protrusion to lock or unlock the connector body from the output port.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the protrusion and the cavity each comprises a double D profile.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the protrusion and the cavity each comprises a triangular profile.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the protrusion and the cavity each comprises a star shaped profile.

26. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the protrusion and the cavity each comprises a hexagonal profile.

27. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the double D protrusion comprises first and second opposed flat surfaces and first and second opposed curved surfaces.

28. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising a recess formed in the connector body and an O-ring positioned within the recess.

29. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising a resistor positioned within the connector body.

30. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the distance between the first and second opposed flat surfaces is about 0.130 inches, and the curvature of the first and second opposed curved surfaces is formed along a line corresponding to about a 0.170 inch diameter circle formed about the midpoint of the front face of the protrusion.

31. **(Original)** The method of claim 22, wherein the double D cavity comprises first and second opposed flat surfaces and first and second opposed curved surfaces.
32. **(Original)** The method of claim 22, further comprising a knob affixed to the shaft.
33. **(Original)** The method of claim 22, wherein the distance between the first and second opposed flat surfaces is about 0.135 inches, and the curvature of the first and second opposed curved surfaces is formed along a line corresponding to about a 0.175 inch diameter circle formed about the midpoint of a front face of the shaft.
34. **(Original)** The method of claim 22, further comprising a gripping surface formed along an outer portion of the knob.
35. **(Original)** The method of claim 22, wherein the length of the connector body is about 1.0 inch and the length of the housing is about 1.120 inches.
36. **(Original)** The method of claim 22, further comprising a circumferential opening formed between the protrusion and the housing and sized to restrict a person's hand or convention tools from maintaining a grip on the protrusion.